



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

H. MICHAEL LORD

Application No. 09/995,253

Filed: November 27, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
EXCHANGING DATA BETWEEN A  
PRIMARY COMPUTER SYSTEM AND  
AN EXTERNAL COMPUTER SYSTEM  
TO ENSURE TRANSACTIONAL  
RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE  
SYSTEMS

COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

Examiner: Not Assigned

Art Unit: 2151

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The Applicant of the above-identified application submits this Preliminary Amendment to correct the Specification so that it corresponds to the formal drawings submitted in response to the requirements set forth in the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application mailed December 13, 2001.

The Notice requires submission of substitute drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.84 because the drawing sheets do not have the appropriate margins. To comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84, the Applicant submits formal drawings concurrently herewith in the Response to Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application. In preparation of the formal drawings, it was determined that the figures of the drawings would not fit on the same number of drawing sheets as originally submitted while maintaining compliance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.84. Therefore, this Amendment to correct the Specification is necessitated.